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## Questions

**ASTRONOMY**—When was the rule for setting the date on which Easter falls formulated? p. 186.

**BIOCHEMISTRY**—How does thrombin act on fibrinogen to form fibrin? p. 181.

**MEDICINE**—What relationship did overweight have in a study of 100 heart disease patients? p. 183.

**TECHNOLOGY**—How can heat be used to take pictures of an object? p. 184.

**Photographs:** Cover, Hughes Aircraft Company; p. 179, Harvard University; p. 181, British Information Services, Inc.; p. 183, West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company; p. 192, URB Products Corp.

### EDUCATION

## Engineering Enrollment Is at All-Time High

➤ THE NUMBER of engineering students in the nation's colleges is at an all-time high.

In the fall of 1957, there was a record number of 257,777 such students in 152 colleges in the United States and its possessions that have one or more curricula accredited by the Engineers' Council for Professional Development.

According to a survey made by the U. S. Office of Education and the American Society for Engineering Education, Urbana, Ill., this represents a 5.5% rise over the previous peak of 244,390 students reported in 1947.

The survey also shows:

1. Engineering enrollment has shown year-to-year increases since 1951.

2. Freshmen enrollments in the fall of 1957 were up one percent over the previous year and part-time and evening enrollments were up 17.1%.

3. Enrollment for the master's degree increased 7.6% between 1956 and 1957 and for the doctor's degree, "a substantial" 22.9%.

4. During the 1956-57 academic year 27,748 first-level engineering degrees, 5,203 master's degrees and 596 doctor's degrees were awarded. (There were 2.3% fewer Ph.D.'s granted in 1956-57 than in the previous academic year.)

5. Electrical engineering was the favorite in the bachelor, master's and post graduate pre-doctoral degrees granted, and chemical engineering for the doctor's degree.

Science News Letter, March 22, 1958

## Do You Know?

Failure of kernels to develop on an ear of corn is often due to high winds at pollinating time.

*Streptomycin* has the ability to control deterioration of some farm products after harvest and during shipment.

No case of the serious swine disease *vesicular exanthema* (VE) has been found in the U. S. for more than a year.